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such as a GS 615 (not explicitly shown in FIG. 16). The MGC 1610 may include a media gateway (MG) 1615, which may have a packet switch such as an ATM switch 630, and mediation logic (ML) 1620 (e.g., which may correspond to, for example, an IWF 1505 of the embodiment(s) of FIGS. 15 et seq.).--

IN THE CLAIMS

Please add the following new claims:

1 27. (New) The system according to claim 6, wherein
2 a connection between at least one of said second nodes and
3 said interworking entity is dynamically created.

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1 28. (New) The system according to claim 6, further
2 comprising:
3 a permanent connection between at least one of said
4 second nodes and said interworking entity.

1 29. (New) The arrangement according to claim 12,
2 wherein a connection between said second node and said
3 interworking entity is dynamically created.

1 30. (New) The arrangement according to claim 12,
2 further comprising:
3 a permanent connection between said second node and
4 said interworking entity.

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1 31. (New) The system according to claim 14, wherein
2 a connection between at least one of said second nodes and
3 said interworking entity is dynamically created.

1 32. (New) The system according to claim 14, further
2 comprising:
3 a permanent connection between at least one of said
4 second nodes and said interworking entity.

1 33. (New) The method according to claim 25, wherein
2 said step of sending the second communication path
3 instruction further comprises:

4 sending the second communication path instruction
5 from the second node to said at least one third node using
6 a dynamically created connection between the second node and
7 said at least one third node.

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1 34. (New) The method according to claim 25, wherein
2 said step of sending the second communication path
3 instruction further comprises:

4 sending the second communication path instruction
5 from the second node to said at least one third node using
6 a permanent connection between the second node and said at
7 least one third node.

1 35. (New) The system according to claim 6, wherein
2 said first node, said plurality of second nodes and said
3 interworking entity comprise a first domain, and further
4 comprising:

5 a second domain comprising:
6 an additional first node, said additional
7 first node including said switching fabric,
8 an additional plurality of second nodes, each
9 second node of said additional plurality of second nodes
10 including said broadband switching fabric and comprising at
11 least part of said broadband network, and
12 an additional interworking entity, said
13 additional interworking entity operatively connectable to
14 said additional first node and said additional plurality of
15 second nodes; and
16 wherein said first domain and said second domain
17 are interconnected by a permanent connection between one of
18 said plurality of second nodes within said first domain and
19 one of said additional plurality of second nodes within said
20 second domain.

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1 36. (New) The arrangement according to claim 12,
2 wherein said first node, said second node and said

3 interworking entity comprise a first domain, and further
4 comprising:

5 a second domain comprising:

6 an additional first node, said additional
7 first node including said switching fabric,

8 an additional second node, said additional
9 second node including said broadband switching fabric, and

10 an additional interworking entity, said
11 additional interworking entity operatively connectable to
12 said additional first node and said additional second node;

13 wherein said first domain and said second domain
14 are interconnected by a permanent connection between said
15 second node of said first domain and said additional second
16 node of said second domain.

1 37. (New) The system according to claim 14, wherein
2 said first node, said plurality of second nodes and said
3 interworking entity comprise a first domain, and further
4 comprising:

5 a second domain comprising:

6 an additional first node, said additional
7 first node including said call control functionality and said
8 circuit-switched functionality,

9 an additional plurality of second nodes, each
10 second node of said additional plurality of second nodes
11 including said packet-switched connection control
12 functionality, and

13 an additional interworking entity, said
14 additional interworking entity operatively connectable to
15 said additional first node and said additional plurality of
16 second nodes; and

17 wherein said first domain and said second domain
18 are interconnected by a permanent connection between one of
19 said plurality of second nodes within said first domain and
20 one of said additional plurality of second nodes within said
21 second domain.

1 38. (New) The method according to claim 25, wherein
2 said first node, said second node and said at least one third

CLEAN VERSION OF THE ENTIRE SET OF PENDING CLAIMS

1 1. A system for combining narrowband and broadband
2 transport mechanisms in a communications network, comprising:
3 a first node, said first node including switching
4 intelligence;
5 a plurality of second nodes, each second node of
6 said plurality of second nodes including broadband switching
7 fabric;
8 an interworking entity, said interworking entity
9 operatively connectable to said first node and said plurality
10 of second nodes, said interworking entity adapted to receive
11 data in a first format from said first node, map the received
12 data into a second format interpretable by said plurality of
13 second nodes, and send the mapped data to at least one second
14 node of said plurality of second nodes; and
15 wherein said interworking entity thereby enables
16 said plurality of second nodes to be controlled, at least
17 partially, by the switching intelligence of said first node.

1 2. The system according to claim 1, wherein said first
2 node is comprised of a telecommunications node, said
3 telecommunications node including narrowband switching
4 fabric.

1 3. The system according to claim 1, wherein said
2 interworking entity comprises a third node between said first
3 node and said plurality of second nodes.

1 4. The system according to claim 1, wherein said
2 interworking entity is at least one of part of and co-located
3 with a second node of said plurality of second nodes.

1 5. The system according to claim 1, wherein said
2 interworking entity is further adapted to emulate an
3 interface for a synchronous transfer mode (STM)-based node
4 with respect to said first node.

1 6. The system according to claim 1, wherein said
2 plurality of second nodes comprise at least part of a
3 broadband network.

1 7. The system according to claim 6, wherein each
2 second node of said plurality of second nodes is adapted to
3 communicate signaling information and data information over
4 the broadband network and to convert broadband information
5 into another media type.

1 8. The system according to claim 6, wherein the mapped
2 data comprises instructions for the at least one second node
3 to establish a communication path through at least a portion
4 of the broadband network.

1 9. The system according to claim 1, wherein the
2 received data comprises at least one first network address,
3 and the mapped data comprises at least one second network
4 address.

1 10. The system according to claim 9, wherein the at
2 least one first network address comprises at least one trunk
3 connection.

1 11. The system according to claim 9, wherein the at
2 least one second network address comprises at least one
3 asynchronous transfer mode (ATM) identifier.

1 12. An arrangement for combining narrowband and
2 broadband transport mechanisms in a communications network,
3 comprising:

4 a first node, said first node including switching
5 intelligence;

6 a second node, said second node including broadband
7 switching fabric; and

8 an interworking entity, said interworking entity
9 operatively connectable to said first node and said second
10 node, said interworking entity adapted to receive data in a
11 first format from said first node, map the received data into
12 a second format interpretable by said second node, and send
13 the mapped data to said second node.

1 13. The arrangement according to claim 12, wherein the
2 first format comprises a circuit-switched format, and the
3 second format comprises a packet-switched format.

1 14. A system for combining narrowband and broadband
2 transport mechanisms in a communications network, comprising:

3 a first node, said first node including call
4 control functionality and circuit-switched connection control
5 functionality;

6 a plurality of second nodes, each second node of
7 said plurality of second nodes including packet-switched
8 connection control functionality;

9 an interworking entity, said interworking entity
10 operatively connected to said first node and to said
11 plurality of second nodes, said interworking entity adapted
12 (i) to receive routing data in a circuit-switched format from
13 said first node, (ii) to map the received data into a packet-
14 switched format that is implementable by said plurality of
15 second nodes, and (iii) to send the mapped data to at least
16 one second node of said plurality of second nodes.

1 15. The system according to claim 14, wherein the
2 circuit-switched format comprises addresses corresponding to
3 switch devices.

1 16. The system according to claim 14, wherein the
2 packet-switched format comprises addresses corresponding to
3 an H.248 protocol.

1 17. The system according to claim 14, wherein said
2 first node includes a synchronous transfer mode (STM) switch,
3 and the at least one second node of said plurality of second
4 nodes includes an asynchronous transfer mode (ATM) switch.

1 18. The system according to claim 14, further
2 comprising:

3 a plurality of third nodes, each third node of said
4 plurality of third nodes connected to the at least one second
5 node of said plurality of second nodes; and
6 wherein each third node of said plurality of third
7 nodes is configured to handle a different telecommunications
8 protocol.

1 19. The system according to claim 18, wherein the at
2 least one second node is adapted to convert media of one type
3 to media of another type, the another type corresponding to
4 a different telecommunications protocol that is associated
5 with at least one third node of said plurality of third
6 nodes.

1 20. The system according to claim 14, wherein at least
2 one second node of said plurality of second nodes is adapted
3 to add a communication path therethrough responsive to the
4 mapped data.

1 21. The system according to claim 14, wherein at least
2 one second node and another node of said plurality of second
3 nodes are adapted to add a communication path therebetween
4 responsive to the mapped data.

1 22. A method for combining narrowband and broadband
2 transport mechanisms in a communications network, comprising
3 the steps of:

4 sending a first communication path instruction from
5 a first node to a second node;

6 mapping the first communication path instruction
7 to a second communication path instruction at the second
8 node;

9 sending the second communication path instruction
10 from the second node to at least one third node; and

11 establishing a communication path responsive to the
12 second communication path instruction.

1 23. The method according to claim 22, further
2 comprising the step of:

3 performing a destination number analysis to derive
4 the first communication path instruction at the first node.

1 24. The method according to claim 22, further
2 comprising the step of:

3 receiving the second communication path instruction
4 at the second node.

1 25. The method according to claim 22, wherein said step
2 of establishing a communication path responsive to the second
3 communication path instruction comprises the step of
4 establishing the communication path in a broadband network.

1 26. The method according to claim 22, wherein the first
2 communication path instruction pertains to a circuit-based
3 address space, and the second communication path instruction
4 pertains to a packet-based address space.

1 27. The system according to claim 6, wherein a
2 connection between at least one of said second nodes and said
3 interworking entity is dynamically created.

1 28. The system according to claim 6, further
2 comprising:

3 a permanent connection between at least one of said
4 second nodes and said interworking entity.

1 29. The arrangement according to claim 12, wherein a
2 connection between said second node and said interworking
3 entity is dynamically created.

1 30. The arrangement according to claim 12, further
2 comprising:

3 a permanent connection between said second node and
4 said interworking entity.

1 31. The system according to claim 14, wherein a
2 connection between at least one of said second nodes and said
3 interworking entity is dynamically created.

1 32. The system according to claim 14, further
2 comprising:

3 a permanent connection between at least one of said
4 second nodes and said interworking entity.

1 33. The method according to claim 25, wherein said step
2 of sending the second communication path instruction further
3 comprises:

4 sending the second communication path instruction
5 from the second node to said at least one third node using
6 a dynamically created connection between the second node and
7 said at least one third node.

1 34. The method according to claim 25, wherein said step
2 of sending the second communication path instruction further
3 comprises:

4 sending the second communication path instruction
5 from the second node to said at least one third node using
6 a permanent connection between the second node and said at
7 least one third node.

1 35. The system according to claim 6, wherein said first
2 node, said plurality of second nodes and said interworking
3 entity comprise a first domain, and further comprising:
4 a second domain comprising:
5 an additional first node, said additional
6 first node including said switching fabric,
7 an additional plurality of second nodes, each
8 second node of said additional plurality of second nodes
9 including said broadband switching fabric and comprising at
10 least part of said broadband network, and
11 an additional interworking entity, said
12 additional interworking entity operatively connectable to
13 said additional first node and said additional plurality of
14 second nodes; and
15 wherein said first domain and said second domain
16 are interconnected by a permanent connection between one of
17 said plurality of second nodes within said first domain and
18 one of said additional plurality of second nodes within said
19 second domain.

1 36. The arrangement according to claim 12, wherein said
2 first node, said second node and said interworking entity
3 comprise a first domain, and further comprising:
4 a second domain comprising:
5 an additional first node, said additional
6 first node including said switching fabric,
7 an additional second node, said additional
8 second node including said broadband switching fabric, and
9 an additional interworking entity, said
10 additional interworking entity operatively connectable to
11 said additional first node and said additional second node;
12 wherein said first domain and said second domain
13 are interconnected by a permanent connection between said
14 second node of said first domain and said additional second
15 node of said second domain.

1 37. The system according to claim 14, wherein said
2 first node, said plurality of second nodes and said
3 interworking entity comprise a first domain, and further
4 comprising:

5 a second domain, comprising:

6 an additional first node, said additional
7 first node including said call control functionality and said
8 circuit-switched functionality,

9 an additional plurality of second nodes, each
10 second node of said additional plurality of second nodes
11 including said packet-switched connection control
12 functionality, and

13 an additional interworking entity, said
14 additional interworking entity operatively connectable to
15 said additional first node and said additional plurality of
16 second nodes; and

17 wherein said first domain and said second domain
18 are interconnected by a permanent connection between one of
19 said plurality of second nodes within said first domain and

20 one of said additional plurality of second nodes within said
21 second domain.

1 38. The method according to claim 25, wherein said
2 first node, said second node and said at least one third node
3 comprise a first domain, and wherein said step of
4 establishing a communication path further comprises:

5 using a permanent connection between one of said
6 at least one third node within said first domain and one of
7 at least one additional third node within a second domain.